ケンショウ・ワタナベ（指揮）　Kensho Watanabe, Conductor

ダイナミックな音楽性、思慮深い解釈、指揮台での魅力的な存在感で国際的に高く評価されている指揮者の一人。メトロポリタン歌劇場にて、ケヴィン・プッツ『めぐりあう時間たち』を成功させた。近年の活動にはセイジ・オザワ松本フェスティバル、ケベック交響楽団、フィラデルフィア管弦楽団との共演があり、フィラデルフィア管とは2016年から2019年までアシスタントとして在任して以来、密接な関係を維持している。フランスのパリを拠点とするワタナベは、ヴァイオリニストとしてイェール大学音楽院で修士号を取得した後、カーティス音楽院の初代指揮フェローとしてネゼ＝セガンとオットー＝ヴェルナー・ミュラーの両氏に師事。またイェール大学で分子生物学、細胞生物学、発生生物学を学び、理学学士を取得している。

"C’est Watanabe et sa direction très professionnelle et intègre qui font le sel du spectacle... C’est un excellent chef."

"It's Watanabe and his highly professional and honest direction that make the show so special... He's an excellent conductor."

Japanese-American conductor Kensho Watanabe is internationally acclaimed for his dynamic musicality, thoughtful interpretations, and engaging presence on the podium.  Following a successful run at the Metropolitan Opera of Kevin Puts’ *The Hours* last season, Watanabe returns to the Met this season for eight performances of Puccini’s *La bohéme*.

In addition to Watanabe’s return to the Met, highlights of the 2024-25 season include a Suntory Hall debut with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, and debuts with the Calgary Philharmonic and Opera Theatre St. Louis.  The 2023-24 season saw Watanabe make his Detroit Opera debut with Puccini’s *Madama Butterfly*, as well as returns to l’Orchestre Métropolitain in Montréal, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the RTE Concert Orchestra in Dublin.  Recent highlights include work with the Seiji Ozawa Matsumoto Festival, Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, with whom he maintains a close relationship following his tenure as Assistant Conductor from 2016-19.

Based in Paris, France, Watanabe is an accomplished violinist, receiving his MM from the Yale School of Music, and serving as a substitute violinist of the Philadelphia Orchestra from 2012-16.  A protégé of Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Watanabe was the inaugural conducting fellow of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with both Nézet-Séguin and Otto-Werner Mueller.   Additionally, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Yale, where he studied molecular, cellular, and developmental biology.